

World Maritime Day today

UNB, Dhaka
World Maritime Day will be observed in the country today as elsewhere in the world.
This year's theme of the day is International Maritime Organisation (IMO): Safer shipping demands a safety culture.
Marking the day, President Iajuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia gave separate messages.
In his message, the president said that keeping the seaway

peaceful is an important matter for safe trade and commerce, and the movement of river vessels.
He underscored the need for sincere cooperation of all and effective steps to keep the seaway free from terrorism, piracy and drug smuggling.
All concerned would have to be aware of sea safety and development of its overall environment for smooth prosecution of trade and commerce and collection of fish and mineral resources.

Jail Killing Day tomorrow

UNB, Dhaka
Awami League will observe the Jail Killing Day tomorrow to pay homage to the four national leaders who were killed inside Dhaka Central Jail in 1975.
After the tragic episode of August 15, some disgruntled army men gunned down Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed, M Qamaruzzaman and Capt. M Mansur Ali, the architects of the country's independence.
Awami League will hoist the national and party flags at half-mast as well as black flags at party offices and wear black badges.
The day's programmes also include garlanding the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, placing wreaths at the graves of the national leaders at Banani graveyard and offering fateha and organising milad mahfils and special prayers.
The party will also hold a discussion at the premises of Bangabandhu Bhaban at 3 pm. Awami League President Sheikh Hasina will preside.

AL leader killed in road accident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Syed Abul Hossain Khwaja, an Awami League leader, died in a road accident at Sonargaon in Narayanganj district yesterday.
The accident occurred when he was returning to Dhaka in a microbus along with the members of his family after attending qulqhwani of his cousin at Sonargaon.
A Dhaka-bound highway bus from Lakkhipur hit the microbus from behind and Khwaja was injured critically.
He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.
His body has been kept in the morgue for autopsy today.
Khwaja left behind his wife, two sons and a daughter.
He lost the last parliamentary election from Sundarganj constituency under Gaibandha district.

11 Party protests army raid

UNB, Dhaka
The left-leaning 11-party yesterday protested the army raids at the houses of its leaders and workers, and arrest of party men in the name of curbing crimes across the country.
In a statement, the party said the army men raided the Fultala house of Hafizur Rahman Bhuiyan, coordinator of Khulna 11-party and Khulna district general secretary of Workers Party, on October 30 night.
The army personnel also arrested Advocate Moizuddin, vice-president of Lalmonirhat district unit of Bangladesh Communist Party, after raiding his house on the same night.
The party demanded immediate end to political harassment and release of its leaders.



The Utsa Bangladesh organised a cultural function at a city hotel on Thursday to raise funds for the destitute children.

15 lakh blind in country

BSS, Dhaka
The number of blind people in the country stands at around 15 lakh including 10 lakh with cornea infection and 5 lakh having other diseases.
Mohammad Nuruzzaman Khan, joint secretary of health and family welfare ministry, said this at a press conference attended by Ruhul Amin Majumder, president of Sandhani, noted physicians Major General A H M Motiur Rahman, Dr. S H N Abu Fatta, Dr. Monil Aich and Dr. Amaduddin, director (Hospital) of the Health Directorate.
Held at the Dhaka Reporters Unity auditorium yesterday in observance of National Voluntary Blood Donation and Posthumous Eye Donation Day across the country today, the press conference stated that the country's present need for blood is three lakh bags.
Of these, 1.5 lakh bags are collected through voluntary blood donation sessions while the rest 1.5 lakh bags are managed from professional blood donors.
While reading out a statement at the press conference, Nuruzzaman Khan said though 10 lakh blinks have cornea trouble, only 1,608 cornea were procured since 1984 of which 1,484 were planted. Of the collected cornea, only 58 were collected from posthumous donation.
He said under the Voluntary Cornea Donation Programme commitments of 34,000 people were recorded for collection of posthumous cornea. Besides, 1,550 cornea were collected from unclaimed bodies, he added.
Speakers at the press conference said it was essential to collect blood from voluntary donors instead of procuring from professional donors to ensure safe blood transfusion.
The slogan of the day this year is "It would be proved through voluntary blood and eye donation that there is nothing except humanity that prevails above all."
In observance of the day, Sandhani Central Committee and Sandhani National Eye Donation Samity will jointly organise elaborate programmes including discussions and rallies to motivate the people and create mass awareness about voluntary donation of blood and eye.
A discussion will be held this morning at Shishu Academy auditorium where Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Amanullah Aman will be the chief guest.
A colourful rally will be brought out after the discussion.
Radio and TV channels will put on air special programmes while the national dailies will carry special supplements highlighting the significance of the day.
Sessions of voluntary donation of blood and eye will also be arranged throughout the country.



The Women's Welfare association of Dhanmondi Officers' Quarters took out a procession in the city yesterday to raise awareness about environmental pollution.

'Reforms should not widen gap between nations'

BSS, Dhaka
Dr Ifekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, ambassador and permanent representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations, has said care must be taken so that "reform efforts do not widen the existing gap between the developed and developing member states."
He was speaking at the Special Political and Decolonisation Committee of the UN General Assembly during a debate on the "UN Reform" on Wednesday, according to a message received here yesterday.
While expressing Bangladesh's support for the ongoing restructuring of the Department of Public Information, he cautioned against any reduction of activities of proven benefit to the developing countries.
The UN department is responsible for carrying the message of the organisation's activities and achievements to the people of the world.
Ambassador Chowdhury also called for increased resources to be provided to the department to meet the demands placed on it by member states.
The restructuring is a part of the ongoing reform of the UN system in order to enhance its efficiency.

WEATHER TODAY

Light rain likely

UNB, Dhaka
Light rain or drizzle is likely at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Jessore and Kushtia during the next 12 hours till 6pm today.
Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said, adding that night temperature may remain nearly unchanged.
Yesterday's highest temperature of 32.2 degree Celsius was recorded at Jessore and the lowest of 16.6 degree at Srimongal.
The sun sets in the capital at 5:19 pm today and rises at 6:06 am tomorrow.
The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	31.0	20.0	46	53
Chittagong	32.0	20.2	62	55
Rajshahi	29.5	19.0	76	86
Khulna	31.5	20.0	76	79
Barisal	30.5	18.8	86	92
Sylhet	31.8	20.2	76	73
Cox's Bazar	30.5	20.0	75	69



A fashion show was held at the gallery of Altamira in the city yesterday.

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Pleased to inform to all our respected shareholders that as per Board of Directors Meeting held on 29th October, 2002 recommended a dividend @ 11% on the paid up capital for the year ended on 30th June, 2002. It was also resolved that the 19th Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on 29th December, 2002 at the Factory Premises, Bhagalpur, Savar, Dhaka at 11.00 AM.
Date: 2.11.2002 By order of the Board
Sd/- Enamul Haque Siddique Company Secretary.

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This is for kind information to valued shareholders of Sandhani Life Insurance Company Ltd., that the Dividend Warrant of 2001 will be delivered from Head Office within 10 a.m. to 2-00 p.m. from 05-11-2002 to 20-11-2002. If not received within the date mentioned, it will be delivered by registered post or Courier Service to the address of the respective shareholders.
Date : 02-11-2002
Company Secretary

13,000 km power lines installed in rural areas
BSS, Dhaka
The government has undertaken a base-line survey work under a master plan in the hill districts, which is expected to be implemented in the coming fiscal year.
The rural electrification programme achieved a commendable success with installation of 13,000 km power lines and 21 power substations in rural areas over the last one-year of the present government.
At the same time, different types of 6.75,920 power connections with electrification of 3,278 villages, computerised billing system in 11 rural electrification associations and reconnection of 3,34,967 snapped power lines after realisation of outstanding bills have been given, sources of the ministry of power, energy and mineral resources told the news agency yesterday.
According to a report of power division, the system loss of 67 rural electrification associations has come down to 16.5 per cent from 17.70 per cent during the last one year.
During the period, the sources said, the Rural Electrification Board (REB) has realised Tk 1,312.29 crore as electricity bills out of the total Tk 1,320.246 crore.
Besides, implementation of two investment projects have completed on schedule out of the total 11 REB projects and one technical project under the government management.
Besides, four investment projects and three technical projects have been included in the current budget out of the total five investment projects and four technical projects sent to the planning commission for approval, the sources said.
The government during the last one year signed agreements with World Bank, IDB, ADB and the Netherlands for 267 million dollar as loans and grants for rural electrification programme.
'Rural electricity network to be further expanded'
BSS, Dhaka
Communications Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda yesterday said the present government had undertaken steps to expand rural electricity network by further strengthening the Rural Electrification Board (REB).
"The rural electrification has in fact boosted the agriculture, food production and trade and business vibrating the entire rural economy over the last 25 years," he said while addressing a function marking the silver jubilee celebration of Dhaka Palli Bidyut Samity-2 at Nababganj.
He said the government had taken measures to expand the rural electricity network to boost the development process.
The minister recalled that late president Ziaur Rahman launched the country's first ever rural electrification programme on October 29, 1977 to improve the life of rural people.

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অগ্রহী যে কোন পরিশেষক/ডিলার উক্ত গাড়ি বিক্রয়ের জন্য প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিজস্ব প্যাডে দরপত্র দাখিল করিতে পারেন। দরপত্র আগামী ১০/১১/০২ তারিখে দুপুর ১২-০০ ঘটিকায় হাসপাতালে রক্ষিত বাস্তবে গ্রহণ করা হইবে এবং ঐ দিন দুপুর ১২:৩০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ থাকেন) খোলা হইবে। হাসপাতাল কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র বাতিল বা গ্রহণ করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।
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